

SPV AIR RECEIVER EXAMINATIONS

REFERENCE:

- (a) 46 CFR 176.812 and 182.330
 - (b) 46 CFR 115.812 and 119.330
 - (c) MSM Volume II, Section C3
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**DIRECTIVES
AFFECTED:**

CIDIG MEMO #14 dated 12Apr94 is superceded.

OVERVIEW:

Unfired pressure vessels on SPVs are almost universally air receivers. While other types could be found, that is very rare. Therefore, this memo will be limited to air receivers only. References (a) and (b) direct the use of subchapter F regulations for inspections of pressure vessels on “T” and “K” boats, respectively. Reference (c) provides detailed guidance on inspection procedures.

CLASSIFICATIONS:

Air receivers are classified as:

- Type I – over 600 psi
 - Type II – 30-600 psi
 - Type III – below 30 psi.
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NEW INSTALLATIONS: Use the following guidelines when inspecting new installations on small passenger vessels:

- Class I, II, and III pressure vessels with a net internal volume greater than 5 cubic feet (37.4 gallons) must be ASME “U” stamped.
 - Class II and III pressure vessels with a net internal volume less than 5 cubic feet must be ASME Code “U” or “UM” stamped.
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OLD INSTALLATIONS: In addition to the above, you may encounter one of the following on an existing installation:

- An OCMI stamped pressure vessel, or
 - A pressure vessel with no identification and an internal diameter of not more than 6 inches. Either of these may remain in service, and are subject to the periodic testing in Subchapter F.
 - A pressure vessel with no identification and an internal diameter greater than 6 inches. Any found are to be removed from service, regardless of pressure or internal volume.
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EXAM INTERVALS: Due to a rapid succession of regulatory changes between 1996 and 2001, exam intervals are repeated here. Pressure vessels are subject to internal examination/hydrostatic testing IAW 46 CFR 61.10, except Class II or III with a volume of less than five cubic feet.

- All pressure vessels over 5 cubic feet volume, and any Class I, must be hydrostatically tested twice in a five year period, with no more than three years between exams, unless it is internally examined. In that case, the next internal exam is due in five years.
 - All pressure vessels, regardless of volume or class are to be externally examined at each COI.
 - Relief valves on all pressure vessels, regardless of volume or class are to be tested twice in a five-year period, with no more than three years between tests.
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